Default in P.F.

308. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently released a list of companies that have defaulted in remitting their Provident Fund share to the EPF Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time bound programme has been formulated to recover such share of PF from central PSUs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A list of defaulting establishments with a default of Rs. 10 lakhs and above has been released on the web site of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.

(c) and (d) All the Administrative Ministries have been addressed by the Union Labour Minister to evolve a special strategy for liquidating the outstanding dues by Central PSUs.

In additon to the regular penal action provided under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the following steps have also been taken for recovery of outstanding dues—

(i) Representation in courts have been strengthened to get stay orders vacated and counter writ-petition field.

(ii) The Central Board of Trustrees, Employees' Provident Fund has approved setting up of a separate Directorate of Recovery to monitor and coordinate recovery work incldluing closer coordination with BIFR, Standing Counsels of the Organisation, etc.

Accidental deaths of labourers

309. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction and contract labours are frequently dying in accidents in Rourkela Steel Plant, NTPC Konia and NTPC Talcher for lack of safety measures; if so, the total number of workers died in accidents therein during the last three years;

(b) whether the contract labourers were getting the wages at par with the regular employees and also getting the health and safety facilities; and